

December 18, 1951

Dr. Jean Dufrenoy
U. Calif., College of Pharmacy
San Francisco 22, California

Dear Dr. Dufrenoy:

Your paper with Dr. Pratt on cepharantine (J. Bact. 59:310-311) was recalled to my attention recently. The morphogenetic effect on *E. coli* is of some interest, because we have encountered the vesicular forms in a pleomorphic *E. coli* which we are studying for the possible genetic implications.

I realize that you quote a commercial source in Japan, but I wonder if I can still ask the favor of a small sample (10-20 mg) for some preliminary experiments. If you can give me any further information that would facilitate securing this alkaloid through commercial channels, I would appreciate this too.

Has this study been continued beyond the cited note?

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Associate Professor of Genetics

P.S. Have you tried staining the vesicles with tetrazolium? The vesicles of our strain give a very interesting picture.